GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2913
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Farmer Producer Organisations
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to attract young farmers towards the formation and promotion of the Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) to carry out agri-business in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the monetary support provided to the States for the promotion of FPOs during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether any assistance/support has been provided to FPOs by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through Krishi Vigyan Kendras in various districts in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen agriculture based livelihood through FPOs in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): SFAC has been mandated by the Government to support the State Governments in the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). The initiative which started in 2011-12 under the two Central Sector Schemes for Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulse Villages in Rainfed Areas has expanded in its scope and covers special FPO projects being taken up by some State Governments under general Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) funds as well as under the National Demonstration Project under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

Accordingly, SFAC has so far promoted 694 FPOs for farmers including for young farmers under the above schemes, out of which 410 FPOs have already been registered and many of them are actively participating in agri-business activities.

(b): State-wise details on the number of FPOs promoted by SFAC and expenditure on the same during the last three years and the current financial year are annexed. The expenditure incurred by SFAC is from the funds received from the concerned State Governments, who engage SFAC for promotion of FPOs under Various Central Sector Schemes. These funds have been released by SFAC to Resource Institutions (RIs) in various States who have been engaged to execute these tasks on the ground.

(c) & (d): No assistance/support is being provided to FPOs by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).